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The value of the notation of cases, decisions and opinions as presented cannot be predicated because of the relevancy of the particular facts which may be the subject of consideration in the given case. The digest of the cases and decisions is a concise and sufficient statement of the facts. The acquirements and enunciation of principles are entirely omitted. The whole treatment is conservative and free from the criticisms and pronounced opinions so prevalent in certain other treatises on the subject. To the lawyer who seeks the facts and cases necessary for the formation of his own opinion, this study is of great assistance; to the lawyer who follows only the cases, this treatise is of equal value.

Because of the magnitude of the subject, the extent of its application and the necessity for some exhaustive and studious presentation of the facts, cases, decisions and opinions it is to be hoped that the author will present a second edition equally free from bias and personal opinion, with the aid of which one may be enabled to eliminate many of the uncertainties and confusions now prevalent. Since the principles of the act may be considered as permanently adapted, the endeavor of all concerned should be to aid and assist in its proper application and the elimination of the erroneous doctrines which may have been permitted to appear as correlative. A careful study of the subject must convince one that the mode of praise justly due to those who formed and administered the act has been submerged by the violent condemnation and criticism usual to the new endeavor.

J. B. L.

UNPOPULAR GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED STATES. Albert M. Kales, Professor of Law in Northwestern University. The University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Ill., 1914.

Professor Kales in his essay endeavors to open the eyes of the voting public to the vital problem with which they are face to face, *i. e.*, the necessity of some sort of reform in the methods of putting into office those who are to carry on the government. He shows how the government which was aimed to be "of the people, by the people, and for the people," has become in reality a government of the few, by the few, and for the few, at the expense and against the wish of the many; such a result having been brought about by the decentralization of government power and the increased application of the elective principle which has necessarily cast upon the electorate an enormous burden. The voters being unable to perform their duty properly, readily accept the advice and direction of a few, called politocrats. In this way an extra legal unpopular government has sprung up, in whose hands practically rests the power of government.

To remedy this evil, many plans have been formulated from time to time, but, as the writer shows, they all fall short of the purpose sought to be accomplished. The platform of the Progressive Party, he says, is not encouraging. He comments favorably upon a commission form of government, and suggests methods of selecting and retiring judges, in order to promote efficiency and to lessen the influence of the politocrats. In conclusion he predicts that the adoption of the Short Ballot and sound practice under it will sweep extra-legal government from the field.

In this well-timed and interesting essay, the writer has made an impressive plea for a much needed reform, and though many may not agree with his conclusions, they will agree that he has clearly and forcibly set forth the difficulties of the situation.

S. L. M.